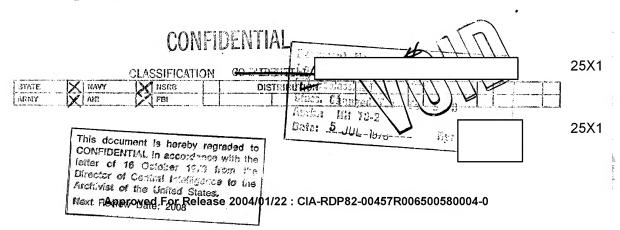
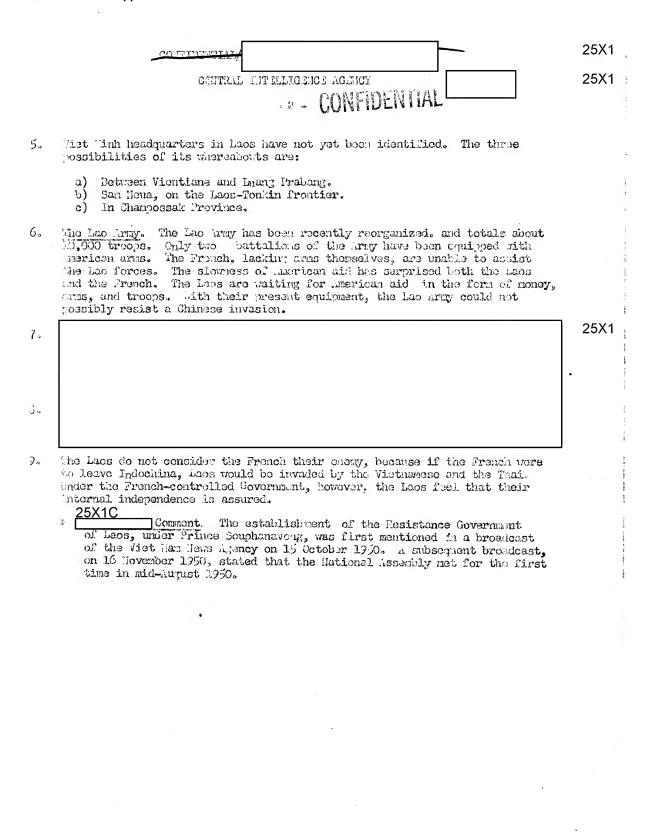
- 1. Internal Political education. The present Lac Government in Vientiane has the support of the King, of Prince Boun Oum, of the French, and of the majority of Lactians. The Lacs accept the French control of the Government because of the economic advantages and because they fear future domination by the Vietnamese or the Thais.
- 2. Leaders of the opposition party are represented in the Government. The party is in contact with the Viet Hinh and is able to carry on an active campaign against the government, because of the official immunity of their leaders. The chief of the party is in Bangkok, where he maintains liaison with Mguyen Duc Quy, Ho Chi Hinh representative in Thailand.
- 3. Former Free Lao leaders are no longer trusted by the Laos, who consider them opportunists, working only for their own interests.
 - a) Prince Souphanavong has been discredited because of his cooperation with the Viet Minh.
 - b) Prince Petcharat has lost the support of the Lacs, which he enjoyed during the French protectorate, because of his maltreatment of civil servants. Prince Petcharat is obliged to remain in Thailand because of his disagreement with Prince Savang. He accepts money from the French and the Thais, as well as from the Viet Minh.
 - c) Vichien Mangkhot has urged the Laos to continue their struggle against the Government and the French, and accuses the Americans of being imperialists.
- Lao-Issara Government. The formation of the new Lao-Issara Government has been unconfirmed.* If it does exist, it is probably headed by Prince Souvannapouma, who hopes to head the Council of Hinisters. He is now in San Heua.





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